

**TUNE INTO ANIMAL PLANET ON WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 2 AT 10AM EST/PST TO JOIN CLASSROOMS
NATIONWIDE IN WATCHING WALDEN MEDIA'S**

**NIM'S ISLAND OUR WORLD:
A REEL THINKING EVENT**

HOSTED BY JEFF CORWIN



WALDEN MEDIA
PRESENTS

**NIM'S
ISLAND**

Abigail BRESLIN *Jodie* FOSTER *Gerard* BUTLER

April 4, 2008

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**WIN A
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ABOUT THE MOVIE

NIM'S ISLAND

Anything can happen on **NIM'S ISLAND**, a magical place ruled by a young girl's imagination. It's an existence that mirrors that of her favorite literary character, Alex Rover – the world's greatest adventurer. But Alexandra, the author of the Rover books, leads a reclusive life in the big city. When Nim's father goes missing from their island, a twist of fate brings her together with Alexandra. Now, they must draw courage from their fictional hero, Alex Rover, and find strength in one another to protect **NIM'S ISLAND**. **NIM'S ISLAND** was written by Joseph Kwong & Paula Mazur and Mark Levin & Jennifer Flackett. It was directed by Mark Levin & Jennifer Flackett and produced by Paula Mazur. The film stars Jodie Foster, Gerard Butler and Abigail Breslin.



ABOUT WALDEN MEDIA

Walden Media's mission is to provide families with programming that inspires, engages, enlightens and entertains. We believe that quality entertainment is inherently educational and can capture our audience's imagination, rekindle curiosity and demonstrate the rewards of knowledge and virtue.

Log on to www.walden.com for additional activities and information.
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Pull out the
booklet to hang
the poster!



ABOUT THE BOOK

NIM'S ISLAND by Wendy Orr is a heartfelt and hilarious adventure that chronicles the exploits of Nim, a young girl living a high-tech Robinson Crusoe existence on an unspoiled tropical island with her scientist father and her best friends a motherly sea lion, a rambunctious iguana and a sea turtle. When Nim's father embarks on a day of research at sea, she begins an unlikely e-mail communication with an agoraphobic novelist who lives in the US. When a storm prevents her father's return and unpredictable dangers confront Nim and the island, she must find the resources to survive. At the same time, the novelist begins to realize that her pen pal is a little girl who is alone and in trouble. She also has to dig down for the courage to leave her safe haven and rescue Nim. **NIM'S ISLAND** has been translated into Korean, Italian, German, Spanish and Basque, and will soon be appearing in Brazil in Portuguese.

REEL LIFE to REAL LIFE

NIM'S ISLAND

Meet the characters of *NIM'S ISLAND*
and their real-world counterparts.



Name: **Nim Rusoe**

Age: **11**

Occupation: **Avid Reader; Island Defender; Devoted Daughter; True Friend**

Interests: **Alex Rover adventure novels; her best friends Selkie (a sea lion), Fred (an iguana), Chica (a giant sea turtle) and Galileo (a bird)**



REAL LIFE: Welland Burnside

Like Nim, Welland Burnside could never stand by when a friend needed help. Similarly, this teenager is a good friend to both humans and animals! As a child, Welland was inspired to create not one, but two charities to help other kids. "Suitcases for Kids," which provides suitcases to foster kids, was born after Welland and his sister, Aubyn, learned that these kids often had to carry their belongings in garbage bags as they moved from one family to another. When he lost a friend to cancer, he founded "Animals for Alex" to provide young patients with stuffed animals.

It wasn't long before Welland turned his attention from stuffed animals to real wildlife. A resident of Murrell's Island, South Carolina, Welland learned that the oyster population along his state's coast was declining because of overharvesting, destruction of habitat, water pollution and coastal development. This is a problem because oysters improve water quality, control erosion and provide habitat for other shellfish and fish species.

Through the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Welland started a local effort of SCORE (South Carolina Oyster Restoration and Enhancement)



to restore oyster beds and check for water quality. For his efforts, Welland was awarded the Youth National Conservation Achievement Award by the National Wildlife Federation!

These days, Welland is a Youth Board Member of EarthForce and a Youth Advisor for *Ranger Rick* and *Weekly Reader* magazines. He has been honored by Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush for his community service work.

Welland Burnside gets other people and groups to take action on behalf of the environment. He shows others that, like him, they too can change the world. Check out www.nwf.org to join people like Nim and Welland who are helping to restore wildlife habitats and protect the environment.



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NIM'S ISLAND



Name: **Jack Rusoe**
Occupation: **Scientist; Dad**
Interests: **Nim; discovering plankton**



Name: **Selkie**
Occupation: **Sea Lion;**
Nim's Protector and Friend
Interests: **Eating fish; barking;**
hanging out with Nim

REAL LIFE: Cynthia Vanderlip

Cynthia Vanderlip is the State of Hawaii's Wildlife Sanctuary Manager at Kure Atoll. Kure Atoll is part of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands — a place almost as remote as NIM'S ISLAND.

Cynthia is an experienced researcher like Jack Rusoe. She has spent many years returning to Kure Atoll, counting and identifying individuals and observing the dolphins and Hawaiian monk seals found there. She has also counted the number of dolphins in a group living in Kure's lagoon. This pod is made up of more than a hundred dolphins.

Another important part of Cynthia's job is protecting and appreciating the unique underwater resources at Kure Atoll. Cynthia is Hawaii's steward of this beautiful atoll. She spends long periods of time on the atoll without other people. But like Jack and Nim, Cynthia has the marine life and sea birds to keep her company and to let her know she is not alone.



Photo by Claire Fackler/NOAA

REAL LIFE: Sanctuary Sam

Now you can have a sea lion for a best friend too! Sanctuary Sam is a California sea lion. Sam can be found hanging out at the water most of the time. He is four feet, seven inches tall and more than seven feet long from his nose to tail! Sanctuary Sam weighs 550 pounds. He does a lot of swimming and he eats herring, capelin, squid, sardines and mackerel.

Sanctuary Sam has an important job! Sam is the National Marine Sanctuary Program Spokes-sea lion. Sam wants kids to know that it is important to take care of the marine environment.

"DON'T TRASH WHERE YOU SPLASH!"



- 1) Protect Sam's ocean friends by putting trash in its place, not in the ocean!
- 2) Help out in a beach cleanup.
- 3) Always leave the environment in a better way than you found it.

"BE WILDLIFE WISE"

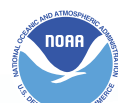


Help Sanctuary Sam by practicing "ocean etiquette." – (EH-ti-cut) Etiquette means knowing the right way to act.

- 1) Never feed wildlife or get in the way of their natural behavior.
- 2) Admire animals from a safe distance.
- 3) Support and share wildlife-friendly practices.

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REAL LIFE: Wendy Orr

Writer Wendy Orr is the author of *NIM'S ISLAND*, as well as 28 other books. A native of Canada, Wendy is now a resident of Victoria, Australia, where she lives with her husband, Tom, and a very large dog. She has two

grown children — and no problem leaving her house! We sat down with Wendy to learn more about *NIM'S ISLAND* and her life as a writer.

Q: *NIM'S ISLAND* is many kids' favorite book. What was your favorite book growing up?

A: I loved a lot of books when I was young, but I think my favorite was probably *Anne of Green Gables*. It's the first book that I can remember reading to myself and really actively being that character. I identified with Anne, who I really had nothing in common with except that she wanted to be a writer. And that, I think, really validated my burning desire to be an author. So that was quite powerful.

Q: Did you start writing when you were young?

A: When I was eight, I wrote a sort of first draft of *NIM'S ISLAND*. We used to take a ferry to visit my grandparents, and we'd pass these little islands on the way. I decided it'd be really lovely to live on one of these little tiny islands off the coast of British Columbia. It would actually probably not be that easy for a small child to survive on one. But I wrote a story, and because of *Anne of Green Gables*, it was about an orphan running away from her orphanage to go and live on one of those tiny islands.

Q: You wrote the first draft of *NIM'S ISLAND* when you were eight years old?

A: When I was writing "Nim," forty years or something later, I started it as a series of e-mails and journals. It wasn't really coming to life, and so on about the seventh draft, I suddenly started remembering being the child who wrote this story, "Spring Island." And that was when it really came to life, the feeling of wanting to make things and be on an island and, you know, find things and do neat things and be self-sufficient. And that was when the story really came to life for me.



Name: **Alexandra Rover**
Occupation: **Novelist**
Interests: **Staying home; ordering in; researching Alex Rover adventures**



Q: What makes the characters in *NIM'S ISLAND* so special?

A: All three of them take strength from helping other people. With Nim, it's very much for Jack that she wants to keep the island secret. Of course she doesn't want those tourists there — they're scary and horrible. But she's also willing to sacrifice her own desires to keep Jack happy by keeping the island a secret. Jack, like any parent whose child is threatened, will do anything to get back to Nim to take care of her. And Alexandra has to admit that she can't lock herself in an apartment forever when Nim reaches out to her for help. She could have never done that, to sort of have some self-help program for agoraphobics, you know. She had to do it for somebody else.

Q: What would you like readers and audiences to take away from *NIM'S ISLAND*?

A: I think that we can all be a lot braver than we think. We're all capable of so much more than we think. Each of the characters in *NIM'S ISLAND* has to figure that out in a fairly dramatic way — rebuilding a boat from nothing, fighting off marauding, piratical tourists, being an agoraphobic and leaving your apartment to cross the world. In more minor ways, we're all capable of just so much more than we think. And, I'd really like kids to remember that, because sometimes the world seems so big. I don't want children to feel that the world is such a scary place that they are powerless, because they can do a lot and look after themselves in many ways.

MEET our PARTNERS

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION (NWF) www.nwf.org

The National Wildlife Federation inspires Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future. NWF believes education is the key to creating a world where wildlife thrives. We teach children, families and concerned citizens how they can help protect wildlife and our natural world.

For more than 70 years, NWF has been connecting people of all ages with nature through award-winning education programs and resources, such as Backyard Wildlife Habitat®, Schoolyard Habitats®, Climate Classroom and Green Hour® programs. NWF publishes *Your Big Backyard*® and *Ranger Rick*®, the nation's first environmental magazine for kids. These programs and publications have guided generations to learn more about wildlife and open their eyes, hearts and minds to the mysteries and wonders of nature.

NWF engages millions to speak and act on behalf of wildlife and our environment. You can get involved by observing National Wildlife Week from April 19-27 and get active outdoors. Join others as you watch wildlife where you live during the National Wildlife Watch. Download local wildlife lists and even report your sightings online at www.nwf.org/watch. If you want to do something more hands-on, visit www.nwf.org/youthservice for many ideas about special environmental action projects that you can do at home or get others to do with you.



NOAA NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PROGRAM www.sanctuaries.noaa.gov

The NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program seeks to increase the public awareness of America's marine resources and maritime heritage by conducting scientific research, monitoring, exploration and educational programs. Today, the sanctuary program manages 13 national marine sanctuaries and one marine national monument that together encompass more than 150,000 square miles of America's ocean and Great Lakes natural and cultural resources.

Although NIM'S ISLAND is an imaginary place, special ocean areas, such as national marine sanctuaries, really do exist. These marine protected areas are living classrooms where people can see, touch and learn about our nation's underwater treasures, as well as protect them for future generations. The ocean sustains life on Earth, so find out more about these special ocean areas and what you can do to help at www.sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education.

Find out more about protecting and preserving America's ocean and Great Lakes treasures and how you can become a member of Nim's Ocean Guardian Kid's Club at www.sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education. Also, visit the national marine sanctuaries' Encyclopedia of Marine Life at www.marinelife.noaa.gov to find out more about Nim's ocean friends, and you won't want to miss the exciting NIM'S ISLAND virtual expedition on www.oceanslive.org.



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READING *is* an ADVENTURE



NIM'S ISLAND
Movie Art & Photos
 ISBN: 0-385-73606-1
Trade Paperback
 ISBN: 0-440-41868-2

Read the book from  **BEFORE you see the film on April 4, 2008!**

A girl. An iguana. An island. And e-mail. Meet Nim – a modern-day Robinson Crusoe! She can chop down bananas with a machete, climb tall palm trees and start a fire with a piece of glass. So she's not afraid when her scientist dad sails off to study plankton for three days, leaving her alone on their island. Besides, it's not as if no one's looking after her – she's got a

sea lion to mother her and an iguana for comic relief. She also has an interesting new e-mail pal. But when her father's cell phone calls stop coming and disaster seems near, Nim has to be stronger and braver than she's ever been before. And she'll need all her friends to help her.



NIM'S ISLAND
Movie Storybook
 ISBN: 978-0545065764

Read the Movie Tie-in Books from 

This 8" x 10 7/8", 56-page, four-color movie storybook tells the whole story of the NIM'S ISLAND movie. This book is designed to be read by a parent to a child, and features simpler words

and sentence structures so kids will be able to follow along. Images from the movie are used to represent the story of the NIM'S ISLAND script to the reader.



Nim's Friends
 ISBN: 978-0545065757

This 6" x 9", 32-page, four-color easy reader introduces Nim and her friends to young readers. This book has simple words and sentence structures so that beginning readers will be able to read it on

their own. Images from the movie will be used to represent what Nim's life is like on the island with her animal friends.



The White Giraffe
 ISBN: 978-0-8037-3211-7

Love NIM'S ISLAND? Check out these new titles.

The night Martine Allen turns 11 years old is the night her life changes completely. That night, Martine's parents are killed in a fire, and she must leave her home in England to live on a wildlife reserve in Africa with a grandmother she never knew she had. As soon as Martine arrives at the reserve, she hears whisperings of a mythical animal living there – a white giraffe. No one has ever seen the animal, but it leaves footprints behind. Her grandmother insists that the

white giraffe is just a legend, but then, one stormy night, Martine looks out her bedroom window straight into the eyes of the tall and silvery animal. The white giraffe is real! But why is everyone keeping the white giraffe's existence a secret? Does it have anything to do with the rash of poaching going on at the reserve? To find out, Martine will use all of her courage and smarts, and an emerging gift for healing, in a daring adventure to save her new friend.



Dolphin Song
 ISBN: 978-0-8037-3214-8

Just as Martine is settling into life on the wildlife game reserve with her grandmother and her white giraffe, Jemmy, she is whisked away on a class trip. Her class is going on an ocean voyage to witness the sardine run, a spectacular natural phenomenon, off the coast of South Africa. What begins as an exciting adventure quickly turns perilous when Martine and

five of her classmates are thrown overboard into shark-infested waters during a storm. They are saved by a pod of dolphins, only to end up marooned on a deserted island. The castaways, at odds with one another, must figure out not only how to survive, but how to save the dolphins when a terrible danger threatens them.

Look for Martine's next adventure in *The Elephant's Tale*.

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294 Washington St., 7th floor
Boston, MA 02108

WALDEN MEDIA PRESENTS

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Abigail BRESLIN Jodie FOSTER Gerard BUTLER

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THIS EDUCATOR GUIDE *features* LESSONS THAT COMPLY
WITH NATIONAL STANDARDS IN KEY CONTENT AREAS.

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